Garrison' Files 10/18/94

In response to my letter asking him about Garrison's files, which Garrison spread the word he had stolen and sold to the CIA, Steve Bordelon phoned ~~to~~ today. He is even more outraged than I'd believed about Garrison's lies because he is the one who saved those files, kept them from falling into the hands of the successor DA, Garrison's enemy, former US assistant attorney in N.O. and because, as Steve tells it, of all the staff he is the only one who did not desert Garrison after his defeat. He is not critical of others for finding other work but when Garrison needed help they were not there. When Garrison lost the election, Steve's friend won as coroner and Steve has been working for him ever since. At the opposite end of the ~~same~~ building.

I do not here record all that Steve told me because I think it will not be good for those files to be used, which would mean misused. The CIA does not have them and it was Garrison who abandonned them. Steve has moved them several times. First was to the coroner's office, where he kept them next to what I think he referred to as "the meat box." Then he built a shed for them behind Garrison's house. Not the one in which he and his family had lived, where he lived after his marriage broke up. Ever since then they have been where Steve took them. When it came to where he had to put them in storage, he did that for Garrison. When Garrison refused to pay the storage charges Steve made an arrangement of which he told me for them. As of today those files are still there. One five-drawer cabinet. There had been two but before moving them the first time Steve eliminated what he referred to as the junk. If he had done that, five drawers would have been more than were required to hold the rest,

Steve is particularly bitter because he did look out for Garrison when others did not. On the IRS arrest, he got a friend to represent Garrison at first. (Garrison wound up defending himself and did it well. He was not convicted.) He did many other favors for Garrison when he was alone, ill and in need of help. He was the only one who did not miss a session of that trial including Garrison's family. He also has the tapes of it aside from two he used over again.

He made several references to Garrison's paranoia. Because he was paranoid when

I knew him I presume this means he got much more paranoid.

I doubt very much that Steve was informed enough to recognize all that was what he called junk.

He was quite specific in saying that the CIA had never spoken to him. He also made it clear that nobody had tried to get those files. Nobody cared. Nobody wanted them is what I take of it.

I asked about Ivon and Loisel. He told me that Ivon defeated himself when he ran for re-election to the legislature. No details or explanation. He said, as I recall, that Lynn Loisel is a guard I think at a court. I asked about no others.

Garrison regarded his first assistant, Charlie Ward, as an enemy before the Shaw trial. Ward was isolated from that. After they both became judges they had a friendly relationship again, Steve said. I asked about no others. What Steve said about the renewed Ward friendship is that politics makes strange bedfellows.

I knew of Steve's loyalty to Garrison and the many ways in which he showed it when I knew them. I also knew from Posner's book that he lied in saying Garrison's files, he had or found them. He used nothing from them, of what I knew was in them, and there is much in them he could and would have used. He could have had much fun with them!!!

I looked into them only one time, when Andrew Sciambra told me what file to look at. It related to a citation I had given someone who immediately filed a distorted account of it. Other than that all I knew of them is what others showed me or told me to copy. I did not even keep copies of all the exhibits I used in the memo that kept Garrison from desecrating the fifth JFK (full account elsewhere) assassination anniversary. For which I am now sorry! I should have kept a complete file of copies of those exhibits. I've recorded more of this elsewhere. Ivon had promised he would have his detectives get anything I needed and he kept his word. All I kept was the documentary proof that Garrison knew that Robert Lee Perrin had in fact killed himself in 1962, despite which he was going to charge him in 1963 with being one of thr Grassy Knoll assassins. I should have kept copies of the craziness Garrison had Boxldy check out, also relating to Perrin. And the report of Perrin's state trooper friend he called to tell him he had just taken poison.

I doubt very much if there was anyone who was as loyal to Garrison or liked him any more than Bordelon when I was there. This makes it even more despicable that Garrison, who knew better, accused him of selling his files to the CIA to explain their seeming disappearance. He did not dare use them in his writing and he knew it.

If Garrison did not know they were largely trash, a real indictment of him, he was crazy. Not seeing to it that they were destroyed is therefore particularly crazy. As was allowing the real situation to exist, that they could be found, gotten and used against him and there.

Steve did say that toward the end Jim did not seem to be really aware of realities, although he did not use these words.

However, when he wrote Garrison was well aware of the fact that if he had used those files he'd have been a laughing stock and he would not have been able to sell his books. He was much safer doing what he did in Onr the Trail of the Assassins, just making it up as he went.

Garrison's regular staff was of city employees. Bordelon was one of the detectives assigned to him. He was also usually Jim's chauffeur. He , Lynn Loisel or both met my plane and delivered me to the airport. If Jim wamted me, he used Steve to find me. For Xmas 1967 Steve got a beautiful silver-plater amd expensive pistol for a staff gift to Garrison. He also had it fancily engraved. Other chipped in but it was Steve's idea. He was available to drive Jim pretty much around the clock and still did investigating.

I never heard him complain and do not ever recall his being other than pleasant, amd friendly.